

EXHIBIT A

Letter dated July 29, 2004 (w/attachments)

ExxonMobil Chemical Company
5200 Bayway Drive
Baytown, Texas 77520-2101
P.O. Box 2149
Baytown, Texas 77522-2149
281 834 5200 Telephone
281 834 2495 Facsimile

ExxonMobil
Chemical

July 29, 2004

Jean-Marc Francois
12 Rue de Deauville
54260 Longuyon
France

**Re: Declaration and Assignment
Docket No. 2002B098/2; "Improved Metallized Films"**

Dear Mr. Francois:

Enclosed please find a Declaration and an Assignment on the above-referenced application.

1. Please verify your address information on the Declaration, including citizenship, sign, and date where indicated. Should you need to make any corrections, simply draw a single line through the incorrect information, write the correct information next to it and initial the change.
2. On the Assignment, please sign, date, and have someone witness your signature *in blue ink*. (This does NOT need to be a notary.)

Once all the documents have been executed, please return the signed originals to me in the pre-addressed DHL envelope provided.

Also enclosed, for your review, is a copy of the Application that was filed. Should you find any mistakes or discrepancies, please contact Rick James at (281) 834-2438 as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email at susan.engelmann@exxonmobil.com, by phone (281) 834-1367 or fax (281) 834-2495.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Susan Engelmann, ALS
Sr. Legal Assistant

Enclosures

1. Declaration
2. Assignment
3. Application

ASSIGNMENT

INVENTOR or INVENTORS:

Jean-Marc Francois

In consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of and/or promise of payment which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned person(s) named above, herein referred to as UNDERSIGNED, hereby agree(s) as follows:

1) UNDERSIGNED hereby assign(s) to ExxonMobil Oil Corporation, a corporation of the state of New York, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, herein referred to collectively as ASSIGNEE, the entire right, title and interest, for the United States and all foreign countries, in and to UNDERSIGNED'S invention or improvement and to all patent applications and patents covering same which is described in a patent application entitled

"Improved Metallized Films"

said application having been executed on the _____ day(s) of _____, 2004, and being further identified as USSN, 10/822,188, Docket No, 2002B098/2, Filed, April 6, 2004, and all rights of priority created by said application under provisions of international conventions or treaties.

2) UNDERSIGNED agree(s) upon the request of ASSIGNEE to execute any and all applications for and documents relating to obtaining patents and the prosecution thereof for said invention or improvement, and any continuations of such applications or substitutes therefor or registrations thereof, and any specific separate assignments of any of the above required for recording in the United States Patent and Trademark Office and any foreign patent office that ASSIGNEE may deem necessary or expedient.

3) UNDERSIGNED agree(s) that in the event of any application based on said assigned invention or improvement, or patent issued thereon, or any reissue or application for the reissue thereof, becoming involved in priority of invention proceedings, UNDERSIGNED will cooperate with ASSIGNEE to the best of the ability of UNDERSIGNED in the matter of preparing and executing all documents and giving and producing evidence in support thereof.

4) UNDERSIGNED agree(s) to perform upon ASSIGNEE'S request any and all affirmative acts to obtain United States and foreign patents covering said invention or improvement and to vest all rights therein hereby conveyed to ASSIGNEE, as fully and as entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by UNDERSIGNED if this assignment and sale had not been made.

5) UNDERSIGNED hereby authorize(s) ASSIGNEE's attorney to insert at paragraph 1, in this instrument the date(s) on which UNDERSIGNED executed the Declaration for the above-referenced patent application, as well as the filing date and application number thereof when known.

ASSIGNMENT (Cont'd.)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this assignment has been executed by UNDERSIGNED on the date _____
opposite UNDERSIGNED'S NAME.

DATE _____

Jean-Marc Francois (Inventor)

Witness

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

"Improved Metallized Films"

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☒ was filed on April 6, 2004 as Application Serial No. 10/822,188

I hereby authorize the attorney/agent to insert the Application Serial No. and filing date, above, thereof when known.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s), or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s), or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | Yes | No |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e)(1)-(2) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| <u>60/461,737</u> | <u>4/10/2003</u> |
| (Application Number) | (Filing Date) |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| (Application Serial No.) | (Filing Date) | (Status - patented, pending, abandoned) |

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

| NAMES | REGISTRATION NUMBERS | NAMES | REGISTRATION NUMBERS |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Leandro Arechederra | 52,457 | Kelly A. Nowak | 35,620 |
| Catherine L. Bell | 35,444 | Tom F. Pruitt | 30,317 |
| Keith A. Bell | 30,023 | Frank E. Reid | 37,918 |
| C. Milton Fick | 33,383 | Dennis P. Santini | 26,029 |
| Andrew B. Griffis | 36,336 | C. Paige Schmidt | 38,556 |
| Rick F. James | 48,772 | Jaimes Sher | 34,726 |
| Linda A. Kubena | 42,772 | Edward F. Sherer | 29,588 |
| Bradley A. Keller | 37,654 | Darryl M. Tyus | 40,853 |
| Mandi B. Milbank | 50,853 | Maria C. Walsh | 37,958 |
| Lucinda Lomas | 51,964 | Phillip G. Woo | 45,234 |
| Louis N. Moreno | 44,953 | | |

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

ExxonMobil Chemical Company
Law Technology
P.O. Box 2149
Baytown, Texas 77522-2149

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

(Name and Telephone Number)

Rick F. James
(281) 834-2438
Facsimile No. (281) 834-2495

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|
| FULL NAME OF INVENTOR | LAST NAME FRANCOIS | FIRST NAME JEAN-MARC | MIDDLE NAME |
| RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP | CITY 54260 Longuyon | STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY France | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France |
| ADDRESS | STREET ADDRESS 12 Rue de Deauville | CITY Longuyon | STATE OR COUNTRY France |
| | | | ZIP CODE 54260 |

Inventor's signature _____

Date _____

SECRET 02544

100-37174

10

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1 Payer account number and shipment value protection details

Charge to ☒ Shipper ☐ Receiver ☐ 3rd Party ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card

Payer Account No. _____

Shipment Value Protection (see reverse)

☐ Yes Declared Value for Carriage (in US \$) _____

☐ Not all payment options are available in all countries.

2 From (Shipper)

Shipper's Account Number 252215234

Contact Name _____

Shipper's Reference (up to 35 characters) 512200-21002100 AVO

Company Name

EXXONMOBIL CORPORATION

Address

LAW TECHNOLOGY 3077

5200 BAYWAY CR RM 1000

BAYTOWN TX

Post/ZIP Code (required) 775202100

Phone, Fax, or E-mail (required) 281-834-1367

3 To (Receiver)

Company Name

Contact Name

Delivery Address DHL Cannot Deliver to a PO Box

17 Ave de Beauville

54260 Longueyon

Country France

Post/ZIP Code (required) 33063-2453235

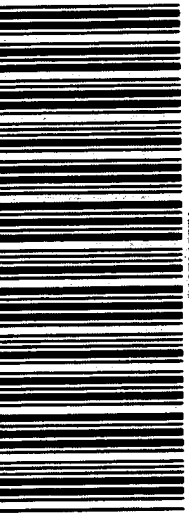
Phone, Fax, or E-mail (required) 33-63-2453235

3/22/04

DESTINATION CODE

ORIGIN

CLS



7987942874

4 Shipment Details

Total Number of Packages 1

Total Weight (kg) 1.00

Dimensions (in inches) Length 10 Width 10 Height 10

Weight (in lbs) 2.20

5 Full Description of Contents

Documents

6 Dutiable Shipments Only (Customs requirement)

Attach the original and four copies of a Commercial Invoice or Pro Forma

Export License No./Symbol (if applicable) Receiver's VAT/GST or Shipper's EIN/SSN

Value for Customs (in US \$) 1.00

TYPE OF EXPORT ☒ Permanent ☐ Temporary

Destination Duties/Taxes (if applicable) Receiver pays duties/taxes.

7 Shipper's Authorization (signature required)

I agree that DHL's standard terms apply to this shipment and limit DHL's liability for loss or damage to the value of the goods.

Signature (required) _____

Date 3/22/04

8 Products & Services

DOMESTIC EXPRESS ☐ U.S. Express Envelope ☐ U.S. Overnight ☐ Other ☐

WORLDWIDE EXPRESS ☒ Int'l Express Envelope ☐ Non-Dutiable ☐ Work/Freight ☐ Other ☐

Service Options (extra charges may apply) ☐ Saturday Delivery ☐ Special Delivery ☐ Hold For Pickup ☐ Delivery Notification ☐ Other ☐

DIMENSIONAL/CHARGEABLE WEIGHT

Not all products or service options are available to/from all locations.

SERVICES

CHARGES

Drop Box #

TOTAL

TRANSPORT COLLECT STICKER No.

PAYMENT DETAILS (Check, Card No.)

No.:

Type

Auth.

PICKED UP BY

Route No.

Date

Expires

Auth.

Date

Ship **Track** Transit Times Rates Pickups Locations **Supplies** Billing

By Number By Reference By Email Signature P.O.D. Sky Courier Shipments

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TRACKING RESULTS: DETAIL

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Tracking Number: 7987942874

Shipment Summary:

Current Status: Recipient refused delivery.

Shipment History:

| DATE | TIME | ACTIVITY AND COMMENTS | LOCATION |
|---------|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 8/2/04 | 3:20 pm | Recipient refused delivery. | Metz, France |
| | 11:00 am | With delivery courier. | Metz, France |
| | 8:58 am | With delivery courier. | Metz, France |
| 7/31/04 | 9:21 am | Arrived at DHL facility. | New York, NY |
| 7/30/04 | 7:14 pm | Departing origin. | Downtown Houston, TX |
| | 5:13 pm | Picked Up by DHL. | Public Drop Box |

Shipper:

EXXONMOBIL CORPORATION
Baytown, TX 775202100
United States

Receiver:

JEAN-MARC FRANCOIS
Longuyon
Fr

Shipment Detail:

Service: Next Day AM
Special:
Weight:
Pieces:Ship Type:
Description: DOC
Shipper's Reference: 813220-0002B098/2 AVD[back to top](#)[▶ New Search](#)

- ◆ Tracking detail provided by DHL: 9/23/2004, 3:32:22 pm pt.
- ◆ For assistance, please [contact us](#).
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